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REPORT OF THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD ON THE WORK OF ITS TWENTY-THIRD SESSION

(14-16 November 2000)

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Introduction

1. The report of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its twenty-third session is presented to the General Conference in accordance with Article 9.4 (c) of the Constitution. The summary records of the Board (IDB.23/SR.1-5), where the details of the proceedings are contained, form an integral part of the present report.

2. The following decision of the Board, reproduced in annex I, is related to the work of the General Conference at its ninth session:

IDB.23/Dec.5 Medium-term programme framework, 2002-2005

I. ORGANIZATIONAL AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS

3. The twenty-third session of the Board was held at UNIDO Headquarters, Vienna International Centre, from 14 to 16 November 2000 (5 plenary meetings—see IDB.23/SR.1-5).

Participation

4. All 53 members of the Board were represented at the session: Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay.

5. The following 42 Member States of UNIDO also participated in the session: Angola, Azerbaijan, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Haiti, Hungary, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lebanon, Lithuania, Malaysia, Malta, Namibia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Oman, Panama, Philippines, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

6. The Holy See participated as observer.

7. The European Commission participated as observer.

8. The following United Nations bodies were represented: Economic Commission for Europe, International Trade Centre UNCTAD/World Trade Organization, United Nations Joint Inspection Unit, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Office at Vienna.

9. The following United Nations specialized agencies were represented: International Atomic Energy Agency and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

10. The following other intergovernmental organizations were represented: International Institute

of Refrigeration, International Organization for Migration, Organization of African Unity.

11. The following non-governmental organizations were represented: Association of Former United Nations Industrial Development Experts, Centre d'Appui au Développement Alimentaire, European Union of Public Relations, Institut Supérieur de Gestion, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, International Federation of Business and Professional Women, International Organization for Standardization, Mountain Unlimited, World Association for Small and Medium Enterprises.

Opening of the session

12. The twenty-third session of the Board was declared open by its President, Mr. A. Ortiz (Spain).

Officers of the session

13. The officers of the twenty-third session were those elected at the commencement of the first regular session in 2000: Mr. A. Kermashah (Islamic Republic of Iran), Mr. F. A. Urruela Prado (Guatemala), Mr. M. Nobilo (Croatia) as Vice-Presidents and Mr. A. Laassel (Morocco) as Rapporteur.

Agenda of the session

14. With an amendment, the Board adopted the following agenda (see summary record IDB.23/SR.1, paras. 6-8):

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda and statement by the Director-General.
3. Report of the Programme and Budget Committee:
   (a) Report of the External Auditor, financial performance report and programme performance report for the biennium 1998-1999;
   (b) Financial situation of UNIDO, including arrears;
   (c) Unutilized balances of appropriations, 1992-1993 and 1996-1997;
   (d) Financial regulations;
   (e) Transition to a single-currency system;
   (f) Medium-term programme framework, 2002-2005;
   (g) Mobilization of financial resources.
4. Integrated programmes.
5. Field representation.
6. Global forum activities.
7. UNIDO Global Environment Facility activities.
8. Operational activities for development.
9. Proposed international centre for sustainable industrial development.
10. Activities of the Joint Inspection Unit.
11. Matters related to intergovernmental, non-governmental, governmental and other organizations.
12. Preparations for the ninth session of the General Conference.
13. Provisional agenda and date of the twenty-fourth session.
14. Adoption of the report.
15. Closure of the session.

15. During the adoption of the agenda, the Board agreed not to take up consideration of agenda item 9, Proposed international centre for sustainable industrial development, in plenary, but only to take note of the information provided by the Secretariat on the item (IDB.23/SR.1, paras. 9-10).

16. The Board adopted a proposal by the President to ensure the maximum utilization of available conference-servicing resources (see annex I, decision IDB.23/Dec.1, IDB.23/SR.1, paras. 4-5).

17. The Board decided to set up informal, in-session consultations with the aim of facilitating the drafting of decisions and entrusted Vice-Presidents Mr. M. Nobilo (Croatia) and Mr. Urruela Prado (Guatemala), to chair those consultations (see IDB.23/SR.2, paras. 1-4).

II. REPORT OF THE PROGRAMME AND BUDGET COMMITTEE

18. The Board decided to discuss simultaneously sub-items (a) to (g). The debate on those sub-items is reflected in summary record IDB.23/SR.1, paragraphs 40 to 67. The Board had before it the report of the Programme and Budget Committee on the work of its sixteenth session (IDB.23/2) and the documents mentioned under A to G below.

A. Report of the External Auditor, financial performance report and programme performance report for the biennium 1998-1999

19. The Board had before it the Report of the External Auditor on the accounts of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and of the Industrial Development Fund for the financial period 1998-1999 ended 31 December 1999 (IDB.23/3 and Corr.1) and the comments of the Director-General thereon (IDB.23/7 and Corr.1), as well as the financial performance report for the biennium 1998-1999 submitted by the Director-General (IDB.23/6). The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.23/L.2) and adopted decision IDB.23/Dec.2 (see annex I).

B. Financial situation of UNIDO, including arrears

20. The Board had before it a conference room paper on the financial situation of UNIDO, including arrears (IDB.23/CRP.1) submitted by the Secretariat. At the suggestion of the President, the Board took note of the information provided by the Secretariat (IDB.23/SR.5, paras. 5-6).

C. Unutilized balances of appropriations, 1992-1993 and 1996-1997

21. The Board had before it a report by the Director-General on the unutilized balances of appropriations, 1992-1993 and 1996-1997 (IDB.23/5, chap. III). At the suggestion of the President, the Board took note of the information provided by the Secretariat (IDB.23/SR.5, paras. 7-8).

D. Financial regulations

22. The Board had before it the report of the Chairperson, H.E. Mrs. I. Freudenschuss-Reichl (Austria), of the Intersessional working group on proposed amendments to the financial regulations (IDB.23/8). The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.23/L.3) and adopted decision IDB.23/Dec. 3 (see annex I).

E. Transition to a single-currency system

23. The Board had before it a note by the Director-General on consultations with Member States on the definition of major objects of expenditure (IDB.23/15 and Add.1). The Board considered a draft decision on definition of major objects of expenditure submitted by the President (IDB.23/L.7) and adopted decision IDB.23/Dec.4 (see annex I).

F. Medium-term programme framework, 2002-2005

24. The Board had before it the proposals of the Director-General for the medium-term programme framework, 2002-2005 (IDB.23/4). The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.23/L.4) and adopted decision IDB.23/Dec.5 (see annex I).

G. Mobilization of financial resources

25. The Board had before it a report by the Director-General on mobilization of financial resources (IDB.23/5). The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.23/L.5) and adopted decision IDB.23/Dec.6 (see annex I).

III. INTEGRATED PROGRAMMES

26. The Board had before it a report by the Director-General concerning consultations with Member States on integrated programmes and field representation (IDB.23/18) and a conference room paper on the subject submitted by the Secretariat (IDB.23/CRP.5). The debate on item 4 is reflected in summary records IDB.23/SR.1, paragraphs 68 to 72; IDB.23/SR.2, paragraphs 5 to 42 and IDB.23/SR.3, paragraphs 1 to 12. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.23/L.9) and adopted decision IDB.23/Dec.7 (see annex I).

IV. FIELD REPRESENTATION

27. The Board had before it a report by the Director-General on field representation (IDB.23/10) as well as a report by the Director-General concerning consultations with Member States on integrated programmes and field representation (IDB.23/18). The debate on item 5 is reflected in summary record IDB.23/SR.2 paragraphs 43 to 81 and IDB.23/SR.3, paragraphs 1 to 12. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.23/L.10) and adopted decision IDB.23/Dec.8 (see annex I).

V. GLOBAL FORUM ACTIVITIES

28. The Board had before it a report by the Director-General on global forum activities (IDB.23/9) and a conference room paper on the subject submitted by the Secretariat (IDB.23/CRP.7). The debate on item 6 is reflected in summary record IDB.23/SR.3, paragraphs 13 to 60 and 75 to 84. The Board considered two draft decisions submitted by the President: one on global forum activities (IDB.23/L.11) and adopted decision IDB.23/Dec.9 (see annex I) and one on UNIDO involvement in LDC III (IDB.23/L.12) and adopted decision IDB.23/Dec.10 (see annex I).

VI. UNIDO GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY ACTIVITIES

29. The Board had before it a report by the Director-General on UNIDO Global Environment Facility activities (IDB.23/11). The debate on item 7 is reflected in summary record IDB.23/SR.3, paragraphs 85 to 95 and IDB.23/SR.4, paragraphs 1 to 19. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.23/L.13) on climate change and environment and adopted decision IDB.23/Dec.11 (see annex I).

VII. OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

30. The Board had before it a progress report by the Director-General on operational activities for development (IDB.23/14). The debate on item 8 is reflected in summary record IDB.23/SR.1, paragraph 73 and IDB.23/SR.4, paragraphs 20 to 33. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.23/L.6) and adopted decision IDB.23/Dec.12 (see annex I).

VIII. ACTIVITIES OF THE JOINT INSPECTION UNIT

31. The Board had before it a report by the Secretariat on follow-up to recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit (IDB.23/12 and Add.1) and a report by the Joint Inspection Unit on UNIDO follow-up to reports and recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit (IDB.23/16). The debate on item 10 is reflected in summary record IDB.23/SR.3, paragraphs 61 to 74. The subject will be considered at the twenty-fourth session of the Board.

IX. MATTERS RELATED TO INTER-GOVERNMENTAL, NON-GOVERNMENTAL, GOVERNMENTAL AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

32. The debate on item 11 is reflected in summary record IDB.23/SR.4, paragraph 35. At the suggestion of the President, the Board took note of the information provided by the Secretariat (IDB.23/SR.4, para. 36).

X. PREPARATIONS FOR THE NINTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

33. The Board had before it a conference room paper containing a note by the Secretariat on preparation of the provisional agenda for the ninth session of the General Conference (IDB.23/CRP.3). The debate on item 12 is reflected in summary record IDB.23/SR.4, paragraphs 37 to 39. At the suggestion of the President, the Board took note of the information provided by the Secretariat (IDB.23/SR.4, paras. 40-41).

XI. PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND DATE OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION

34. The Board had before it a conference room paper containing a note by the Director-General on the provisional agenda and date of the twenty-fourth session (IDB.23/CRP.2) and a conference room paper containing a note by the Secretariat on the term of office of the current Director-General and procedure for nomination and appointment to the post of Director-General (IDB.23/CRP.4). The debate on item 13 is reflected in summary record IDB.23/SR. 4, paragraphs 42 to 43. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.23/L.8). After a statement by Vice-President F. Urruela Prado (Guatemala), the Board entrusted regional groups with the task of finalizing the agenda for the twenty-fourth session (see summary record IDB.23/SR.5, paras. 40-45), it being understood that the dates proposed in document IDB.23/L.8 (19-22 June 2001) were accepted by the Board.

XII. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

35. The Board considered the draft report (IDB.23/L.1) and adopted it as a whole with the understanding that the Rapporteur would be entrusted with the task of finalizing the report (see summary record IDB.23/SR.5, paras. 46 to 48).

XIII. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

36. On 16 November 2000, at 1.10 p.m., the Board closed its twenty-third session.

Annex I

DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD AT ITS TWENTY-THIRD SESSION

Decision No.	*Title*	*Page*
IDB.23/Dec.1	Utilization of available conference-servicing resources (IDB.23/SR.1, paras. 4-5)	7
IDB.23/Dec.2	Report of the External Auditor, financial performance report and programme performance report for the biennium 1998-1999 (IDB.23/SR.5, paras. 3-4)	7
IDB.23/Dec.3	Financial regulations (IDB.23/SR.5, paras. 9-10)	7
IDB.23/Dec.4	Definition of major objects of expenditure (IDB.23/SR.5, paras. 11-12)	7
IDB.23/Dec.5	Medium-term programme framework, 2002-2005 (IDB.23/SR.5, paras. 13-14)	7
IDB.23/Dec.6	Mobilization of financial resources (IDB.23/SR.5, paras. 15-16)	8
IDB.23/Dec.7	Integrated programmes (IDB.23/SR.5, paras. 17-24)	8
IDB.23/Dec.8	Field representation (IDB.23/SR.5, paras. 25-26)	8
IDB.23/Dec.9	Global forum activities (IDB.23/SR.5, paras. 27-30)	9
IDB.23/Dec.10	UNIDO involvement in LDC III (IDB.23/SR.5, paras. 31-34)	9
IDB.23/Dec.11	Climate change and environment (IDB.23/SR.5, paras. 36-37)	9
IDB.23/Dec.12	Operational activities for development (IDB.23/SR.5, paras. 38-39)	10
	Provisional agenda and date of the twenty-fourth session (IDB.23/SR.5, paras. 40-45)	10

IDB.23/Dec.1 UTILIZATION OF AVAILABLE CONFERENCE-SERVICING RESOURCES

The Industrial Development Board, with the aim of utilizing the available conference-servicing resources to the maximum possible effect, decided to suspend with immediate effect rule 32 of its rules of procedure relating to the quorum, for the meetings of its twenty-third session only and provided no substantive decisions were taken at those meetings.

1st plenary meeting
14 November 2000

IDB.23/Dec.2 REPORT OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR, FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT AND PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR THE BIENNIUM 1998-1999

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Took note with satisfaction of the report of the External Auditor for the biennium 1998-1999 (IDB.23/3);

(b) Also took note of the comments of the Director-General (IDB.23/7);

(c) Requested the Director-General to take all necessary measures to ensure recovery of the receivables owed to the Organization, including taking legal action against the debtors, as referred to in paragraph 45 of the report of the External Auditor;

(d) Requested the Director-General to establish procedures for the systematic follow-up of receivables and to limit the administrative work connected with such follow-up;

(e) Requested the Director-General to undertake an actuarial study to determine the financial impact of after-service health insurance and to report thereon to the Programme and Budget Committee at its next session;

(f) Requested the Director-General to pay all due attention to the efficiency of Financial Services;

(g) Requested the Director-General to report on the implementation of these measures to the Board at its twenty-fourth session.

5th plenary meeting
16 November 2000

IDB.23/Dec.3 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Took note of the interim report of the Chairperson of the Intersessional working group on proposed amendments to the financial regulations (IDB.23/8-PBC.16/10);

(b) Encouraged the Intersessional working group to continue its deliberations with a view to submitting proposed amendments to the financial regulations to the seventeenth session of the Programme and Budget Committee.

5th plenary meeting
16 November 2000

IDB.23/Dec.4 DEFINITION OF MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Took note of conclusion 2000/4 adopted by the Programme and Budget Committee following its consideration of document PBC.16/9;

(b) Also took note of the information provided by the Director-General on the definition of major objects of expenditure (IDB.23/15 and Add.1);

(c) Authorized the Director-General to apply the new definition of major objects of expenditure, as described in document IDB.23/15, to the programme and budget proposals for the biennium 2002-2003 and subsequent bienniums.

5th plenary meeting
16 November 2000

IDB.23/Dec.5 MEDIUM-TERM PROGRAMME FRAMEWORK, 2002-2005

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Recalled General Conference decision GC.6/Dec.20;

(b) Recommended that the General Conference take note of the approach outlined for the medium-term programme framework taking into account the general orientation contained in document IDB.23/4-PBC.16/5 and the comments made by Member States during the sixteenth session of the Programme and Budget Committee and the twenty-third session of the Industrial Development Board.

5th plenary meeting
16 November 2000

IDB.23/Dec.6 MOBILIZATION OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Took note of the information contained in document IDB.23/5-PBC.16/6;

(b) Decided to delegate to the Director-General the authority to approve projects for financing under the Industrial Development Fund in 2001 and 2002 in accordance with the information contained in chapter I of that document;

(c) Encouraged Member States and other donors to contribute to or to increase their voluntary contributions to UNIDO and specifically to the Industrial Development Fund;

(d) Also encouraged all donors to consider contributing programmable funds, specifically to enable UNIDO to implement the integrated programmes in a coordinated manner and achieve the synergy and increased impact envisaged in the integrated programme concept;

(e) Further encouraged all Member States to facilitate access to funds available from bilateral sources to finance the implementation of components of integrated programmes matching the bilateral cooperation priorities;

(f) Encouraged Governments of recipient countries to play a more active role in sharing with UNIDO the responsibility to mobilize funds for jointly-developed integrated programmes and other high-priority activities from sources available to them.

5th plenary meeting
16 November 2000

IDB.23/Dec.7 INTEGRATED PROGRAMMES

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Recalled decision IDB.17/Dec.2 concerning the Business Plan on the Future Role and Functions of UNIDO;

(b) Welcomed the increase in funds mobilized for technical cooperation activities in 1999;

(c) Aware that the integrated programmes are not static, considered that any adjustment should be made only after mutual consultations between the Secretariat and the respective recipient country, in order to ensure an optimal and efficient utilization of resources available to the Organization;

(d) Encouraged all Member States, including donors, to provide adequate resources for an effective implementation of the integrated programmes;

(e) Requested the Director-General to report to the twenty-fourth session of the Board on progress in the implementation of the integrated programmes as well as on the overall situation of funds mobilization.

5th plenary meeting
16 November 2000

IDB.23/Dec.8 FIELD REPRESENTATION

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Recalled provisions of the Business Plan on the Future Role and Functions of UNIDO that called for an effective decentralization of activities and strengthened field representation and noted that the effective decentralization remains incomplete;

(b) Requested the Secretariat, in consultation with Member States, to provide an in-depth analysis of the current situation of the field offices and their contribution to technical cooperation delivery in order to enhance their effectiveness, and submit the result to Member States for further consideration;

(c) Also requested the Director-General to provide more comprehensive details of the Secretariat's approach towards effective decentralization in order to continue consultations with the Member States and to report thereon to the twenty-fourth session of the Board.

5th plenary meeting
16 November 2000

IDB.23/Dec.9 GLOBAL FORUM ACTIVITIES

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Took note of the information provided in document IDB.23/9;

(b) Recalled the policy orientations defined in the Business Plan on the Future Role and Functions of UNIDO, in particular the continuation of global forum functions;

(c) Stressed the importance of well-focused and relevant global forum activities with a view to supporting UNIDO's technical cooperation and to assist in UNIDO's contribution towards achievement of the international development targets as stated in the United Nations Millennium Declaration;

(d) Requested the Director-General to keep Member States informed in a detailed manner and in advance on the planned activities mentioned in document IDB.23/9.

5th plenary meeting
16 November 2000

IDB.23/Dec.10 UNIDO INVOLVEMENT IN LDC III

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Recognized that the current globalization process poses a risk of marginalization to a number of developing countries;

(b) Was convinced of the role that sustainable industrial development can play in reaching inter alia the goal set in the United Nations Millennium Declaration of halving, by the year 2015, the number of people suffering from extreme poverty;

(c) Reaffirmed the necessity of UNIDO's focus on poverty alleviation through productive capacity development in agro-industry and the manufacturing sectors in order to assist developing countries, the least developed countries among them, in the process of industrialization and to stimulate secondary industrial growth;

(d) Recognized the need to address supply-side constraints, especially in least developed countries, through the promotion of competitive micro-, small- and medium-scale enterprises, which could be a powerful means for job creation, poverty alleviation and integration in the global economy;

(e) Underlined the need for a visible and focused contribution of UNIDO to the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, especially under the thematic area of Development and strengthening of productive capacity in LDCs and encouraged the Director-General to keep Member States informed about UNIDO's activities in this regard;

(f) Therefore requested UNIDO to continue to give special emphasis to the least developed countries, in particular in Africa—while preserving its universal character in line with the Business Plan—and, together with other relevant international institutions, to assist them in the progressive integration in the global economy by upgrading competitiveness, enhancing productive capacity, stimulating innovations and increasing the level of incomes through a process of industrialization that was compatible with sustainable development, combined with a multilateral and bilateral programme to upgrade the production and export capacities of least developed countries;

(g) Encouraged UNIDO to actively participate in its field of competence in the international development debate and to strengthen cooperation with other relevant organizations and agencies, and requested the Director-General to keep Member States apprised of progress achieved.

5th plenary meeting
16 November 2000

IDB.23/Dec.11 CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Was aware of the serious threat that global warming may pose to the climate system and hence to sustainable development;

(b) Recalled resolutions GC.8/Res.3 on sustainable industrial development and GC.8/Res.2 on the Global Environment Facility;

(c) Was desirous to enable all countries to benefit from international cooperation endeavours under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol;

(d) Was aware of the mandate of the United Nations General Assembly Special Session in 1997 on the five-year review of the Rio commitments to the ninth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD 9) to work towards sustainable energy futures for all;

(e) Was aware that sustainable energy policy interventions can make important contributions to economic welfare, to social welfare, and to protecting the local, regional and global environment;

(f) Was determined to use the global process under the Commission on Sustainable Development to enhance political will for promoting sustainable energy;

(g) Welcomed the useful consultations with Member States on the possible future role of UNIDO in the context of the Kyoto Protocol regime as well as on environmental matters in general held on 24 October 2000 and 13 November 2000;

(h) Recognized and supported the role that UNIDO can play to build capacity and facilitate technology transfer in programme countries in order to work towards the full implementation of the obligations under UNFCCC and the speedy realization of the goals and objectives laid down in the Kyoto Protocol;

(i) Encouraged UNIDO to further strengthen and share in a visible manner its relevant expertise in close cooperation with other institutions and Member States;

(j) Encouraged UNIDO to contribute actively, within the Ad Hoc Interagency Task Force on Energy, to the preparation of the global negotiations on energy CSD 9;

(k) Requested UNIDO to develop within its mandate, and in time for the CSD 9 process, concrete proposals for its possible role in the follow-up to CSD 9, to consult with Member States and to coordinate with other relevant United Nations agencies in a timely fashion on how to proceed further;

(l) Noted the role of energy in sustainable industrial development and its link with poverty alleviation and requested the Director-General to develop within UNIDO's mandate an appropriate strategy to enhance UNIDO's role in the promotion of renewable energy in developing countries, in cooperation with relevant international agencies;

(m) Encouraged UNIDO to continue its relevant work in the field of persistent organic pollutants (POPs).

(n) Requested the Director-General to report on the implementation of the present decision to the twenty-fourth session of the Industrial Development Board.

5th plenary meeting
16 November 2000

IDB.23/Dec.12 OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Recalled United Nations General Assembly resolution 53/192, which inter alia calls upon specialized agencies to submit yearly progress reports to their governing bodies on measures taken and envisaged for the implementation of that and related resolutions;

(b) Took note of the information provided in the progress report of the Director-General (IDB.23/14), including the relevant information contained in other documents as indicated in paragraph 2 of the progress report;

(c) Requested the Director-General, in the interest of reducing overlap, to provide the information requested in resolution 53/192 in future annual reports of the Organization exclusively.

5th plenary meeting
16 November 2000

PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION
(Draft decision submitted by the President as contained in document IDB.23/L.8)

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Takes note of the information contained in document IDB.23/CRP.2;

(b) Decides to adopt the following provisional agenda for its twenty-fourth session:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda.
4. Annual report of the Director-General for 2000 on the activities of the Organization.
5. Report of the Programme and Budget Committee:
   - (a) Interim financial performance report and programme performance report for the biennium 2000-2001;
   - (b) Programme and budgets, 2002-2003;
   - (c) Scale of assessments for apportionment of the regular budget expenses;
   - (d) Working Capital Fund for the biennium 2002-2003;

(e) Financing of UNIDO programmes, including new initiatives for funds mobilization;
(f) Financial regulations;
(g) Introduction of the euro;
(h) Follow-up to the report of the External Auditor for the biennium 1998-1999;
(i) Appointment of external auditor.

6. The regional dimension:

(a) Africa;
(b) Arab region;
(c) Asia and the Pacific;
(d) Europe and NIS;
(e) Latin America and the Caribbean.

7. Industrialization of the least developed countries.

8. Integrated programmes.

9. UNIDO Global Environment Facility activities.

10. Technology foresight activities.

11. The role of UNIDO in the achievement of international development targets.

12. Global forum activities.

13. Field representation.

14. Investment and Technology Promotion Offices.

15. Administrative matters.

16. Activities of the Joint Inspection Unit.

17. Matters related to intergovernmental, non-governmental, governmental and other organizations.

18. Recommendation of a candidate for the post of Director-General.

19. Preparations for the ninth session of the General Conference.

20. Provisional agenda and date of the twenty-fifth session.

21. Adoption of the report.

22. Closure of the session.

Annex II

DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD AT ITS TWENTY-THIRD SESSION

Symbol	*Agenda item*	*Title*
IDB.23/1/Rev.1	2	Agenda
IDB.23/1/Add.1	2	Annotated provisional agenda
IDB.23/2	3	Report of the Programme and Budget Committee on the work of its sixteenth session (4-5 September 2000)
IDB.23/3 and Corr.1	3 (a)	Report of the External Auditor, financial performance report and programme performance report for the biennium 1998-1999. Report of the External Auditor on the accounts of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and of the Industrial Development Fund for the financial period 1998-1999 ended 31 December 1999
IDB.23/4	3 (f)	Medium-term programme framework, 2002-2005. Proposals of the Director-General
IDB.23/5	3 (c), (g)	Mobilization of financial resources. Unutilized balances of appropriations, 1992-1993 and 1996-1997. Report by the Director-General
IDB.23/6	3 (a)	Report of the External Auditor, financial performance report and programme performance report for the biennium 1998-1999. Financial performance report for the biennium 1998-1999. Submitted by the Director-General
IDB.23/7 and Corr.1	3 (a)	Report of the External Auditor, financial performance report and programme performance report for the biennium 1998-1999. Comments of the Director-General on the report of the External Auditor
IDB.23/8	3 (d)	Financial regulations. Intersessional working group on proposed amendments to the financial regulations. Report of the Chairperson, H.E. Mrs. I. Freudenschuss-Reichl, Austria
IDB.23/9	6	Global forum activities. Report by the Director-General
IDB.23/10	5	Field representation. Report by the Director-General
IDB.23/11	7	UNIDO Global Environment Facility activities. Report by the Director-General

Symbol	*Agenda item*	*Title*
IDB.23/12 and Add.1	10	Activities of the Joint Inspection Unit. Follow-up to recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit. Report by the Secretariat
IDB.23/13 and Add.1	9	Proposed international centre for sustainable industrial development. Report by the Director-General
IDB.23/14	8	Operational activities for development. Progress report by the Director-General
IDB.23/15 and Add.1	3 (e)	Transition to a single-currency system. Consultations with Member States on the definition of major objects of expenditure. Note by the Director-General
IDB.23/16	10	Activities of the Joint Inspection Unit. UNIDO follow-up to reports and recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit. Report by the Joint Inspection Unit
IDB.23/17/Rev.1	-	Lists of States included in Annex I to the Constitution of UNIDO. Note by the Secretariat
IDB.23/18	4, 5	Integrated programmes. Field representation. Consultations with Member States. Report by the Director-General
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IDB.23/CRP.1	3 (b)	Financial situation of UNIDO, including arrears. Note by the Secretariat
IDB.23/CRP.2	13	Provisional agenda and date of the twenty-fourth session. Note by the Director-General
IDB.23/CRP.3	12	Preparations for the ninth session of the General Conference. Preparation of the provisional agenda for the ninth session of the General Conference. Note by the Secretariat
IDB.23/CRP.4	13	Provisional agenda and date of the twenty-fourth session. Term of office of the current Director-General and procedure for nomination and appointment to the post of Director-General. Note by the Secretariat
IDB.23/CRP.5	4	Integrated programmes. Note by the Secretariat
IDB.23/CRP.6	2	List of documents
IDB.23/CRP.7	6	Global forum activities. Focusing UNIDO interventions. Note by the Secretariat
IDB.23/CRP.8	-	List of participants